

POSTER CONTEST for the 2014 MONTANA ENERGY CALENDAR

Participation

All third, fourth, fifth, and sixth grade Montana elementary school students are invited to enter the poster contest for the 2014 Montana Energy Calendar.

Entry Deadline

Poster entries must be postmarked no later than Saturday, June 15, 2013.

2014 Calendar Theme - "Energy Efficiency In Action"

The enclosed poster illustrates many ways that your students and their families can use energy more efficiently. Energy efficiency "tips" are listed on the back side of the poster. Have your students select a topic from their grade level (see list below) and then illustrate one of these "tips" for their poster artwork. If we conserve and use energy wisely and safely, we can save energy, money and our natural resources!

The Cover: Ask a few of your students to design the cover for the 2014 calendar. The poster should be bright, colorful and depict in bold lettering the calendar theme: **"Energy Efficiency in Action!"**

3rd Grade Topic – Home Lighting and Water Usage

Sample tips: Take a short shower instead of a tub bath. Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth or washing your hair. Turn off the room lights when you leave. Turn off the TV when you're not watching.

4th Grade Topic – Home Kitchen and Laundry

Sample tips: Refrigerator - close the refrigerator door quickly instead of "refrigerator shopping." Dishwasher – wash only full loads, use air dry and energy saver settings. Oven – limit or skip preheating, cook multiple items at once, keep oven door closed, use a microwave oven when possible instead of the conventional oven. Laundry – wash with cold water, do full loads, hang clothes instead of using the dryer.

5th Grade Topic - School

Sample tips: Keep doors and windows closed. Make sure classroom, bathroom, and vestibule lights are off when not needed. Recycle paper. Use energy settings for computer monitors and turn off computer CPU's, printer, speakers, etc. at end of day. Organize an Energy Action Team to examine how energy is being used in your building and find ways to reduce waste. Are lights left on? Doors open? Computers left on?

6th Grade Topic - Transportation

Sample tips: Car pool and ride share. Combine trips when running errands. Reduce idling time; idling a car for 10 seconds uses more fuel than turning the car off and on. Walk or ride a bike whenever possible. Eat locally produced foods. Eating locally produced foods reduces the fuel used to process, package and deliver the food we eat.

Artwork Requirements

Artwork must be original and the work of one student only. Students should focus on one main topic or idea in their artwork and give this topic a title. This title should be listed on the artwork submission form. **Size: 12" x 18" horizontal format only.**

Materials: white drawing paper. Crayon, marker, paint (watercolor, tempera, acrylic), collage, photograph or computer graphic may be used. Lettering and messages must be large enough to reproduce well. **Please have students check for spelling errors** and keep lettering away from borders. Copyrighted characters such as Charlie Brown, product logos and names (Coke, Kleenex, etc.) cannot be used. **All pencil markings should be completely erased. Students names should be printed lightly on the back of the artwork as well as on the release form.**

Poster Selection Process and Student Recognition

A jury of educators, knowledgeable about energy and the visual arts, will select 13 posters from the contest entries to appear in the 2014 Montana Energy Calendar. The 13 winning posters will be featured in a full-color calendar for the year 2014, with each student winner's name, grade, teacher's name, school, and home town appearing under his/her artwork. The winning 13 students will be notified by mail in September 2013. Their teachers and principals will also be notified of the student's award. These students will each receive a \$50 cash prize and copies of the 2014 Montana Energy Calendar. The 2014 calendars will be distributed at no charge to elementary and middle school teachers next October.

REMINDERS TO TEACHERS

Please **send all artwork** created by your students to the Montana Energy Education Council, so that we may send each student who submits a poster a thank you letter and a copy of the 2014 calendar. **Posters must have a signed release form (see next page) attached to the back.**

Calendar Contest Checklist

To ensure that the artwork submitted by your students receives proper consideration, please check for the following items before mailing their entries.

- * Student's name is written lightly on the back of the poster.
- * Release form is legible, completely filled out, and signed by the student's teacher and parent or guardian.
- * Release form is securely attached to the back of the poster. Artwork which is submitted without the release form will be ineligible for the competition.
- * Artwork meets the size specifications listed under "Artwork Requirements".
- * Artwork focuses on the appropriate topic for grade level.
- * Title of the artwork should relate to the theme depicted in the artwork. The title may or may not appear in the artwork but must be listed on the submission form.
- * Artwork is securely packaged and mailed flat. Please do not roll artwork.

Entries must be mailed by June 15, 2013 to the following address:

Montana Energy Education Council, 17 Hitching Post Road, Bozeman, MT 59715